Amount to Orissa for forest conservation

1879. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to release Rs. 67 crores to the State of Orissa for forest conservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government have made a request for speedy clearance of their pending project proposals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, indicating the time-frame within which these would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The State Government of Orissa has submitted an Action Plan for utilization of Rs. 67.90 crore for the year 2007-08 out of the funds deposited by the State Government in the Compensatory. Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). These funds have been collected on account of diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and are meant for conservation and development of forests and wildlife.

In compliance of the order dated 29.10.2002 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995, the Ministry of Environment and Forests had issued a Notification dated 23.04.2004 for constitution CAMPA. The process of obtaining Cabinet approval to the CAMPA Notification is under way. The funds deposited in CAMPA can be considered for utilization only after obtaining the Cabinet approval to the CAMPA Notification.

Conservation of mangroves

1880. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the competent authority had examined the project proposal submitted in February, 2006 and revised project proposal during November, 2006 for conservation of sacred mangroves in Kerala by the competent authority of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Government of Kerala has submitted the Management Action Plans for conservation and management of mangroves at Kannur and Vembanad in July, 2006.

The Management Action Plan for Kannur has already been sanctioned on 31.7.2006 by the Ministry at a total cost of Rs. 49.21/- lakhs and that for Vembanad